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1934 NATIONAL 4-H MUSIC HOUR Music We Should Know

57th Monthly National 4-H Club Radio Program
March 3, 1934

Descriptive notes prepared and broadcast by R. A. Turner, field agent, Office of Cooperative Extension Work, United States Department of Agriculture, to interpret the group of musical compositions played by the United States Marine Band during the National 4-H Club Radio Program of March 3, 1934.

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How do you do, 4-H club folks!

Today we come to the third National 4-H Music Hour in our 1934 series, which has as its central theme Music We Should Know.

We must hurry on to the music, which I know you will thoroughly enjoy as it is played for us by the United States Marine Band.

Dance of the Tumblers from The Snow Maiden - Rimski-Korsaltov

March is the birth month of two composers whose music we study today, namely, Rimski-Korsakov and Haydn. Our first composition is the Dance of the Tumblers from The Snow Maiden by the Russian composer Rimski-Korsakov. The story upon which this opera is based is an old Russian legend which tells of the triumph of the sun over the snow of winter.

Opening the National 4-H Music Hour for March, the United States Marine Band, with Capt. Taylor Branson conducting, plays the Dance of the Tumblers from The Snow Maiden by Rimski-Korsakov.

La Matinata - Leoncavallo

Our second number is La Matinata by Leoncavallo. This Italian composer wrote his first opera when only 18 years of age. Because of his rare literary ability, he wrote many of his own librettos. Probably his best-known opera is Pagliacci.

The composition La Matinata, by Leoncavallo, is played by the United States Marine Band.

None but the Weary Heart - Tschaikowsky

This next composition is beloved by many of you. It is None but the Weary Heart by another of the great Russian composers, Tschaikowsky. As a young man, Tschaikowsky gave his attention to law, and studied music only incidentally. Encouraged by his father, he later abandoned his law practice and devoted his entire time to music. He visited America to conduct four concerts in connection with the dedication of Carnegie Hall in New York City, after which he conducted concerts in several other cities in the United States.

None but the Weary Heart is a number well known to most of you, and is one which I'm sure you will enjoy as it is played by the United States Marine Band.

Melody in F - Rubinstein

Surely all 4-H club members will recognize at once the next composition, which is the lovely Melody in F by Rubinstein. Rubinstein was born in Russia, but was educated in Germany. Melody in F, originally a short piano selection, shows the influence of the German Romantic School. This beautiful composition is played for us now by the United States Marine Band.

Surprise Symphony - Haydn

Just here we are going to make one change in the compositions listed for today's program. Instead of the "Toy Symphony" by Haydn, we shall hear the andante from the "Surprise Symphony" by the same composer.

The "Surprise Symphony" gets its name because of the sudden crash at the end of the andante, or the second movement.

This is the story. The prince, in whose court Haydn was director of music, once complained that the music lacked color, so Haydn decided to surprise him. As this symphony was first being played at the court, the audience was almost lulled to sleep, when suddenly, at the fortissimo chord, everyone awoke to the fact that "Papa" Haydn, as he was sometimes affectionately called, had sprung a surprise on them.

Remember this story as you now listen to the andante from the "Surprise Symphony" by Haydn as it is played by the United States Marine Band.

All 4-H club members and their leaders know that our next National 4-H Music Hour will be a part of the national 4-H club radio program to be broadcast at this same hour on Saturday, April 7. Plan to enjoy it with us.

The Heavens Are Telling from The Creation - Haydn

Our last number for today is The Heavens Are Telling from the oratorio The Creation, by Haydn. This oratorio, which Haydn called "the greatest work of my life", was written when the composer was 67 years of age.

For the closing number on our National 4-H Music Hour for today, the United States Marine Band, Capt. Taylor Branson conducting, plays "The Heavens Are Telling, from the oratorio The Creation, by Haydn.